

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE  
Transcriber's Office

May 11, 1999

LB 105

title.) The bill was introduced on January 7, at that time referred to Urban Affairs, advanced to General File. I do have committee amendments pending, Mr. President. (AM1282, Legislative Journal page 1545.)

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: Thank you, Mr. Clerk. Before we pro...before we start, members, could you please take your conversations off the floor or off to the side so we may begin today's business. Senator Brown, to open on LB 105.

SENATOR BROWN: Mr. President, members of the Legislature, last October Congress passed the Quality Housing and Work Responsibility Act of 1998. It was largely federal legislation that was designed by Jack Kemp, when he was at HUD. The act promotes more public-private sector cooperation. It anticipates that there will be diminished federal support for low-income housing and that that support will be...will not come in the form of direct grants for the development of housing. It promotes a move from warehousing low-income families, which has been a failed idea, to plans which work better, and there are five components of LB 105. It's the promotion of mixed-income housing, mixed-use housing developments, mixed financing, mixed ownership, and "collaboratives" in terms of the administration of low-income housing. And, finally, it encourages housing authorities to find alternative sources of funding. LB 105 is based on the federal legislation, on model legislation that was developed for each one of the states. It allows Nebraska housing authorities to better prepare for the reduction in federal funding. It implements most of the federal provisions. Our current law in Nebraska for low-income housing and for housing authorities was developed during the Depression. It was last overhauled in the 1940s, when changes were made to accommodate returning veterans. LB 105 updates Nebraska's housing laws. This is the third year that we have worked on provisions to update Nebraska's housing laws. In 1997, LB 876 was introduced by the Urban Affairs Committee and made a committee priority. There have been two interim studies conducted on this topic and so we've spent a lot of time dealing with it, and I'd like to thank the Urban Affairs Committee for all the time that they have spent doing this. I became involved with this bill because...largely because of the demographics in the state of Nebraska. If you look at the situation that many